GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:425
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2002
COMPLETION OF BRIDGES
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bridges on border roads sanctioned by the Government and the Director General, Border Roads Organisation have not since been completed even after many years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for abnormal delay;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to complete these bridges; and

(d) the time by which these bridges are likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has so far constructed a total of 222 permanent bridges.Presently 89 bridges are at various stages of construction. Out of these, the following 7 bridges have been delayed beyond 5 years:- Passighat, Lohit and Tawangchu in Arunachal Pradesh; Chenab, Woyil and Kijipora in Jammu & Kashmir; Khurdangpo in Himachal Pradesh.

The main reasons for delay are inaccessibility, extreme weather conditions, frequent floods, difficulty in sinking of foundation wells in the river beds, militancy and abandonment of work by contractors.

(c) Construction of all bridges is being monitored closely for their early completion. The steps taken by BRO include proper site selection, on the job training for officers and subordinates, introduction of computer aided designs etc.

(d) Except in case of Woyil and Kijipora bridges, where construction is held up because of court cases, all efforts are being made to complete the other bridges at the earliest. No definite time-frame can be laid down due to difficulties expressed in the reply at para (a) & (b) above.